



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: New Wine, New Wineskins

Speaker: Rich Villodas – Lead Pastor

Scriptures: Mark 2:18-22

Jesus Questioned About Fasting

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"

19 Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. 20 But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.

21 "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. 22 And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."

Sermon Summary:

What does it mean to make room for something new? This Sunday, we explore Jesus' teaching on wine and new wineskins in the Gospel of Mark, discovering how God invites us into a life of renewal and fresh possibilities.

Sermon Questions:

1. God wants to pour new wine in your life and there needs to be a new structure or way of life to hold it. The good news is that Jesus has new wine for us. Be warned, however, our rigidity can ruin the wine. Saying or thinking "we've always done it this way" exposes our rigidity and it leaves no room for the new wine God wants to pour out.

In the stories of Mark we have covered in the series so far, the religious leaders were rigid and didn't have room for the new ways God was showing up. Where do you notice rigidity in your life or an unwillingness to change?

2. To what degree are you open to God's new activity in my life? What do you use as an excuse to stay in your rigidity? Ex. Age, place in life, your past, temperament/personality, fear, etc.
3. You are to be like a wineskin- a container to absorb all that God wants to do in our lives. In order to be the kind of wineskin that can hold new wine, we need to pay attention to:

Resistance- recognize the ways resistance shows up in our lives

- reveals pride in us
- Keeps us stuck in old patterns and ways of thinking

Hesitance- when we are uncertain and not sure if we can trust

- Have you been double dutching with God?

Acceptance- saying, "I'm open. I'm tired of the old patterns that have gotten me stuck"

What are areas where you notice resistance, hesitance or acceptance in your life with God?

4. In the Bible, wine is a symbol of abundance, joy, and salvation. Old wineskins can become new wineskins by soaking them in oil and water to make it pliable again. In what practical ways do you think we can allow ourselves to be softened and renewed in order to be ready and open to receive the new wine and abundance that God wants to pour out?